

*Am. Campbell,
Haileybury,
Lake Temiscamingue.*

THE
LAKE TEMISCAMINGUE DISTRICT,

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, CANADA.

A DESCRIPTION OF ITS SOIL, CLIMATE, PRODUCTS, AREA, AGRICULTURAL CAPABILITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES.

TOGETHER WITH

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

WRITTEN BY

C. C. FARR

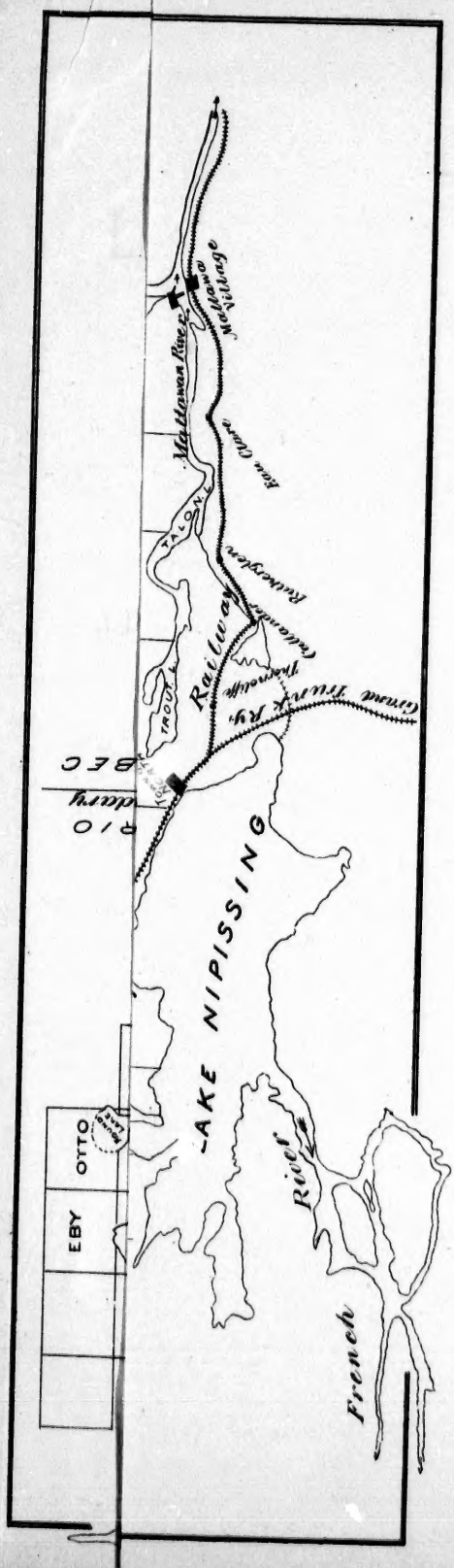
OF HAILEYBURY, LAKE TEMISCAMINGUE.



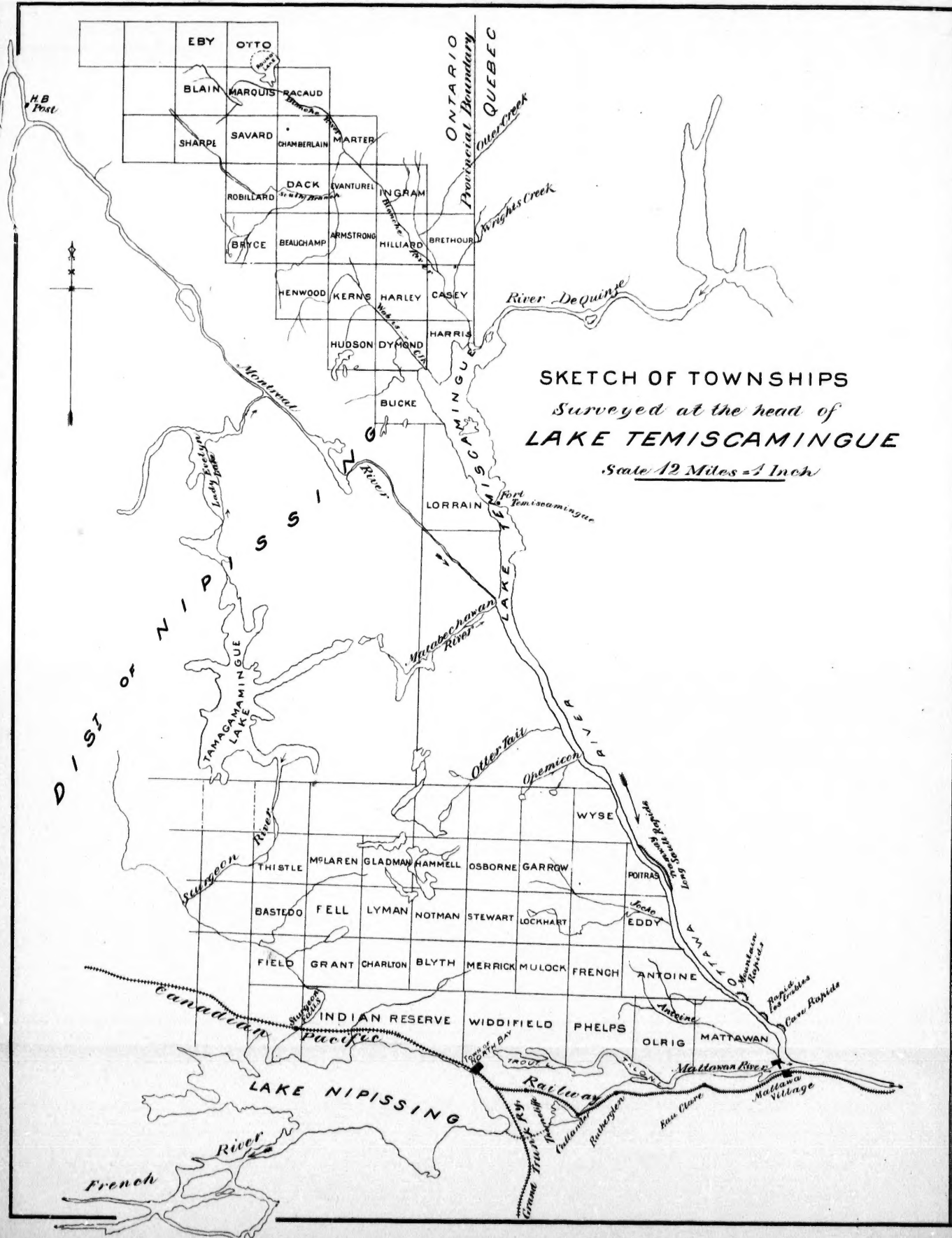
TORONTO:

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1893.

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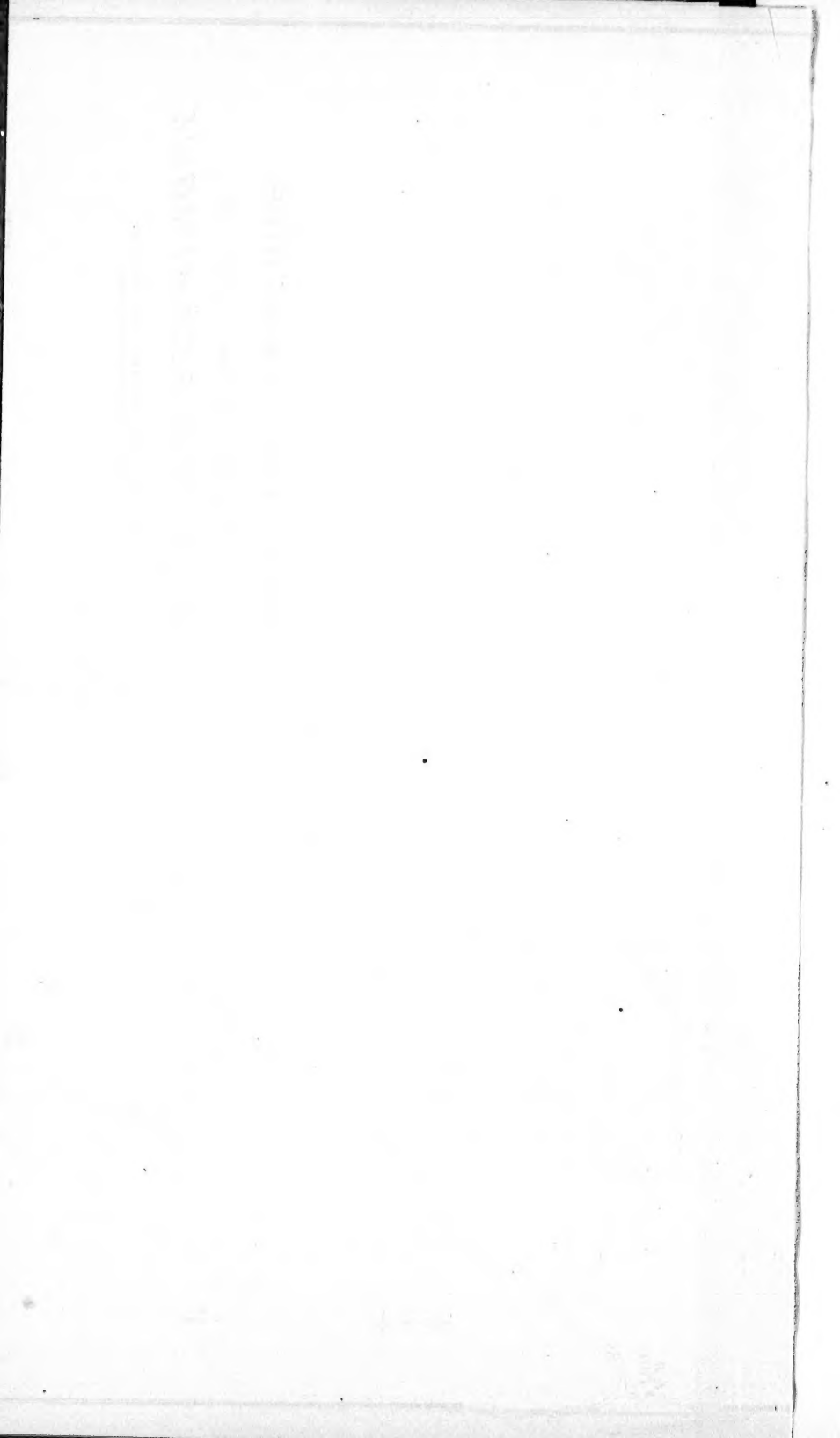


THE TOWN OF
Maitland
is situated on the
Maitland River
and is the
head of the
Maitland River
which flows
into the
Lake Nipissing.



SKETCH OF TOWNSHIPS
Surveyed at the head of
LAKE TEMISCAMINGUE

Scale 12 Miles = 1 Inch



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From the author,*

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RE LAKE TEMISCAMINGUE.

INTRODUCTION.

In writing this short pamphlet, I have endeavored to treat the subject as dispassionately as is consistent with one whose heart is in the work, and who believes in the great future of Lake Temiscamingue.

I have only stated what I know to be facts, and in relation to agricultural possibilities I write from an experience that extends over a period of about twenty years.

I have not quoted the words of others, believing that my own experience should teach me best what information is most needed by intending settlers, and that one whose manhood has been spent in any particular portion of a country, has more real knowledge of its conditions than could possibly be gained by a hurried visit, or from unreliable hearsay. I have sacrificed the artistic, the literary and the romantic, for the practical, everyday questions of common sense.

Nor is this a guide book for tourists. I speak to men with whom the question of the day is how to live and make money, not how to spend it; for by such men is the bush subdued, and the forests turned into farms.

I wish it understood that I do not advise men enjoying comfortable homes to exchange them for the bush. Bush farming is not a pastime nor a pleasure, it is hard, uncompromising work; nor would I care to take the responsibility of advising any man to undertake it, but I can assure those who wish to try it, that the land in the Lake Temiscamingue district is good, and that all the other conditions are such that the making of a comfortable home, and the gaining of an independence, are merely questions of energy and time.

LAKE TEMISCAMINGUE.

Twenty-five years ago, school children were taught that Lake Temiscamingue was the source of the River Ottawa, a fallacy that was disproved on closer examination by competent men, who found that it was merely an expansion of the Ottawa, the source of which must be looked for between three and four hundred miles further north and east. In those days, however, little was known of our vast possessions north of the line of settlement, they being generally considered rough and unfit for cultivation, and with a climate so rigorous as to preclude all ideas of agricultural possibilities, fit only as the habitation of fur-bearing animals, or of the Indians who hunted them.

The last few years have proved that this was all a grave mistake, and that geographically Temiscamingue is further south than many countries famous for their cereals—south of London, of Paris, of Vienna, and of the best wheat-growing sections of European Russia, whilst on our own continent Manitoba and the great North-West are to us in latitude as is the North Pole. Even Rainy River, lately proved suitable for agriculture, is north of Temiscamingue, while Minnesota, Dakota, and parts of Michigan are away north, and yet people will talk of almost perpetual snow and ice in these regions, when a glance at the map will

w those who know anything of geography, latitudes and isothermal lines that Temiscamingue lies in the very centre of the best wheat-producing belt in the world. Therefore, having proved geographically and logically that the climate is all that could be desired, practical demonstration of which will be found further on, let us now consider the nature and quality of the soil.

THE SOIL.

Contrary to all geological theories and expectations there has been deposited at the northern or upper end of Lake Temiscamingue an extensive bed of limestone exceedingly fossiliferous, and, geologically speaking, of the Silurian epoch. This limestone has been worn away in most places by the action of the ice during the glacial age, ground to powder in fact, and the resulting sediment mixed with that of other rocks has been deposited in the basin of that sea where the limestone was originally formed, thus making a magnificent sub-soil of calcareous clay, upon which age after age the black mould formed of decayed vegetable matter has gathered and accumulated until it has become perfect for the use of man, nature's heirloom to her children, pre-arranged and pre-ordained, a farm factory started hundreds of thousands of years ago, silently and wonderfully manufacturing farms for a generation only foreseen by the all-foreseeing One.

Why waste further words in describing the soil? Those who run may read, and reading know that such a soil so made must be the very best for agriculture. Geologically speaking, therefore, Temiscamingue is undoubtedly suitable for agriculture, and it only now remains to prove by practice what has been proved by theory; but this comes under another heading and will be found further on.

THE TIMBER.

This is the least attractive, because the most misleading feature of the country. It has often been said that the quality of the soil can be judged by the timber. This may be true, but the locality must also be reckoned with. Once learn what kind of land to expect under certain kinds of timber in certain localities, then the rule holds good; but to expect to decide the quality of the soil in north-eastern Ontario by the same timber test that holds good in south-western Ontario is apt to lead one astray.

The timber here on the best land is small, and as a rule composed of poplar, balsam, spruce, birch, balm of gilead and tamarack. In places cedar is very plentiful and grows to an enormous size on comparatively high ground. The small size of the timber is not the result of the soil, but on account of being comparatively a young growth. Over one hundred years ago a mighty fire must have swept these forests bare, and the present covering is but an overgrown second growth.

The advantage of such light timber is obvious. Logging becomes a possibility to a man not made of iron, or who does not wish to become prematurely old; while the land can be stumped so much the sooner. Five years after chopping, any ordinary team will tear out most of the stumps, and consequently new farms soon take the appearance of old ones.

THE MARKETS.

The Ottawa River is famous for its pineries. Lumbering operations on a large scale are carried on every year. The shanties consequently are the principal markets, and prices of produce, as a matter of course, fluctuate according to the supply and demand. Oats have started in the fall at 60 cents per bushel and reached \$1.25 by the spring. Hay has been sold as high as \$50 one year, loose in the barn, and in the following year offered for \$15, pressed. But of late years the prices have become more steady, which is a better sign and indicative of a general improvement both in the supply and demand.

The present prices are about a fair sample of what to expect; though of course the nearer approach of the railroad will have a modifying effect on them and in most cases, though insuring a more steady market, the effect will be to lower them.

The following are the quotations of the fall of 1892:

Hay, per ton, pressed at farm	\$20 00
Oats, per bushel	60
Barley "	1 00
Peas "	60
Wheat "	1 50
Beans "	3 00
Potatoes, per bag	60
Turnips "	25
Butter, per pound	25
Pork, green, per pound	08
Beef, per pound	07

WHAT THE COUNTRY WILL GROW.

Anything that can be grown in a temperate climate can be grown on Temiscamingue soil, even to some of the tenderest vegetables, as the following will show :

<i>Vegetables :</i>	<i>Vegetables:—Con.</i>	<i>Cereals :</i>	<i>Fruits :</i>
Beans,	Parsnips,	Barley,	Apples,
Beets,	Peas,	Oats,	Plums,
Cabbage,	Pumpkins,	Peas,	Grapes,
Cauliflower,	Potatoes,	Wheat.	Gooseberries,
Carrots,	Radishes,		Currants,
Celery,	Rhubarb,		Raspberries,
Cucumbers,	Squash,		Strawberries.
Corn,	Tomatoes,		
Lettuce,	Tobacco,		
Melons,	Turnips.		
Onions,			

Everything included in the above list has been successfully grown, and it is probable that if anything else yet remains to complete those lists it would prove equally successful.

The wild fruits are unusually plentiful and Temiscamingue blueberries are famous. Its wild plums are more famous for their quality than their quantity, though even they are more numerous than in most bush countries, and are wonderfully large and sweet ; better in fact than many garden sorts.

Wild strawberries, raspberries and gooseberries are also plentiful, and in some spots on the broken limestone of the lake shore the wild grape grows and ripens in a manner that would do credit to the sunniest slopes of Southern Ontario.

SUMMER FROSTS.

To say that there are no summer frosts would be misleading. August is the month in which they are most dreaded, but they certainly do not occur every year, nor indeed once in three years. When they do come, the grain as a rule escapes injury, only the tenderest vegetables suffering, and then in isolated clearances at considerable distance from the lake. Provided that the grain is sown early enough even in the worst years, farmers can afford to laugh at the summer frosts, for the grain ripens before they are possible. In a new country farmers have not the conveniences for early seeding that they have in other places ; apart from the fact that they have not, and can not use, machinery, their

time is taken up in the spring with logging, picking roots, and preparing the land when they should be sowing their grain ; consequently the grain is late and if it gets touched with the frost they complain of the climate, whereas if they thoroughly consider the matter they would remember that on the farms where they formerly lived, they would never have thought of sowing anything but buckwheat as late as they sow oats or any other grain on their new farms, and yet if their crops fail to ripen, they throw the responsibility of their own thoughtlessness and necessity on the climate which in truth had nothing to do with the matter.

Every new settlement in Canada has been abused and condemned in its time by the older settlements immediately south of it, on account of its frosts, "Too cold," they have said, "and too far north, nothing will grow there," and when it has been proved to the contrary, history again repeats itself, and the new settlement becoming old, prophecies evil of its younger neighbor, still further north. It is another proof that each man thinks that the world was created especially for himself and that the other fellow has no right to the same good things that he enjoys, and so it will be forever, until we reach the arctic regions. But to return to the subject of summer frosts, about which enough has been said to convince anyone reading this that there must be grounds for all this talk. As a matter of fact, Temiscamingue is less afflicted in this respect than were many parts of southern Ontario when first opened for settlement. It is possible that the height of land may have a sheltering effect upon this low-lying valley of the Ottawa, or perhaps such frosts are purely local and the result of local causes, such as swampy land and dense green forest growth. Be what it may the chances of such frosts will be yearly lessened by the clearing of the bush, and in the future Temiscamingue will enjoy more certain immunity from them than some of the most favored spots of Ontario.

THE SEASONS.

Seeding time commences about the first week in May and ends, so far as oats are concerned, about the fourth of June, though oats have been sown as late as the 20th of June and have done fairly well. Potatoes can be planted as late as the 20th of June, and it does not profit much to put them in before the 24th of May. Corn, cucumbers and melons can be sown about that date. The snow begins to melt about the 12th of April and is all gone by the first week in May, sometimes earlier. Navigation opens not later than the 10th of May.

Haying commences about the 14th of July, harvest the 15th of August. The fall is open, and the large lake is seldom frozen before the second week in December. The steamers run last fall until the 12th of December.

In winter the cold is not so intense as would be expected, and the lowest readings of the thermometer give Temiscamingue the advantage over many other places further south.

MINERALS.

When Sir William Logan first passed through this section many years ago, he recognized the importance of its minerals. He is reported to have said that the day would come when the mines of Temiscamingue would employ more men than the pine forests. It seems that Sir William was right, for the mineral discoveries of late years have been of considerable importance, showing the existence of minerals of nearly every description—silver-bearing galena, copper, iron, nickel, mica and asbestos—while through it all run traces of gold, giving promise of important discoveries in that respect in the future.

So far only a few of these "finds" have been brought before public notice, chief of which are the Wright galena mine of Temiscamingue, the Guay or Girard nickel mine also of Temiscamingue, the Klock galena or copper mine on Montreal river, the Gilligan copper mine on the same river, the Ferguson copper and gold mines on Temiscamingue, the Cockburn Cross Lake Mine on the same lake, and sundry other "finds" all through the district, all awaiting better means of communication for their development, and indicative of the fact that though these first finds may not prove bonanzas, at least minerals are plentiful in the country, and when by fires or otherwise the district shall have been denuded of its forests, the words of Sir William Logan will be verified and mining will be one of the chief industries of Temiscamingue and its neighborhood. A glance at the geological map will show that Sudbury is on but a narrow arm of the great Huronian belt stretching diagonally through the Districts of Algoma and Nipissing. The developments at Sudbury were made possible only by the Canadian Pacific Railway. A new railway will also be the means of developing a greater than Sudbury here.

The Geological Survey Department at Ottawa have paid more attention to this section than to any other. Their reports constantly call attention to the possibility and likelihood of immense mineral deposits being found on Lakes Temiscamingue and Temagamingue and the Montreal River, and their testimony is valuable because they are not privately interested in the country.

THE PINE.

On the Quebec side of the lake much timber has already been taken off and still they are busy at it; but on the Ontario side, ten miles west of the lake, the limits are as yet unsold. In spite of serious fires, the result of criminal stupidity on the part of men who should have known better, there is yet a considerable quantity of pine awaiting the axe, the cutting of which will insure a market and employment for this settlement for many years to come.

In the townships to be opened for settlement very little pine is found. It

apparently was destroyed by that great fire which swept through it one hundred years ago, as proved by the long low mounds of rotten wood, moss-covered and obscure tombs of the mighty giants of the forest, who towered over the rest in by-gone centuries.

SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

There are none. Temiscamingue civilized is a condition of the future. It is essentially a new country. Were it otherwise, this pamphlet would not now be sent abroad to proclaim the fact of its existence. If schools and churches abounded there would be people occupying the land; otherwise, how could they have been built and supported? No, there are no schools nor churches, but let the people come and they will quickly follow. Like gaols and drinking saloons, they are the products of civilization, and, with them, will increase in proportion to the high estate of that civilization. At this stage of development, so embryonic and primitive, the question of most interest to men is whether the land will support them and their families, and if it will, then the question of schools and churches is one that they themselves can solve.

For fear lest it should be imagined that the few Protestants forming this community are altogether left to their own devices in the matter of religion, be it said that for the last three summers a student from Wycliffe College in Toronto has looked after the adherents of the Anglican persuasion, while the Presbyterian minister from Mattawa has also paid periodical visits in the interest of his denomination. The Roman Catholic church is well represented on the Quebec side, there being a large church, convent and missionary house at Baie des Peres, besides other churches, such as on the Indian Reserve at the head of the lake and at Gordon Creek at the foot.

RAILROADS.

At present the nearest railroad is the Canadian Pacific Railway at Mattawa, a distance of one hundred miles from Haileybury. The C. P. R. intends pushing a branch line from Mattawa which, following the valley of the Ottawa River, will emerge on Temiscamingue at the head of the Long Sault rapids, or foot of Temiscamingue Lake.

It will bring the railroad thirty miles nearer, and by the help of the steamers on the lake enable the traveller to leave Mattawa in the morning and arrive at Haileybury the same evening.

It will also considerably lessen the costs of fares and freight. In winter, however, it will not benefit much, for there will still remain about seventy miles of sleighing between the C. P. R. terminus, and the new settlement.

It is not therefore to the C. P. R. extension that we eventually look for the

development of this country, but to the Nipissing and James' Bay Railway, which, following the line of the Grand Trunk from Toronto to North Bay, will cross the C. P. R. there, and after touching at Temagamingue Lake will head straight for and probably come out on Temiscamingue Lake somewhere at the north-western extremity. Thence it will pass northwards through the heart of the fertile belt to which the attention of the public has been called in these pages. It will cross the height of land and head straight for James Bay, its proposed terminus, building up the country as it passes, and being itself supported by the country in its turn. Such has been the history of all colonization lines, their financial success being assured by the nature of the country through which they pass, or at their objective point.

For a distance of seventy miles from North Bay, or less, the country through which the line will pass, with a few isolated exceptions, is unfit for settlement, but it is bristling with pine and teeming with minerals. It has been suggested that to run a line through such an agriculturally unpromising land in order to reach the fertile belt, would be an unprofitable speculation. The answer to this objection is that in proportion to the length of line to be constructed, the extent of good land eventually to be reached is greater than the great north-west in proportion to the length of the C. P. R. constructed through a far rougher country, and that the minerals and timber alone are sufficient to warrant the enterprise, and moreover that the tourist traffic which will spring up between ~~Temiscamingue~~ ^{Temagamingue} Lake and Toronto, will be greater than that which to-day helps to pay the expenses of a line through rocky Muskoka. *Temagamingue*

So far little has been said of Lake Temiscamingue itself for it is not nor will be a settlers' paradise; but summer tourists will rejoice in it and be glad, for a greater than Muskoka is there. Thirteen hundred islands studding an immense lake where water is as clear as crystal and abounding in fish, will make such a resort for city-choked, sun-scorched, dust-laden tourists as Canada never saw before. When this lake is opened up for the public, nearly every man of leisure can become for a few months in each year an inhabitant of his own island, an amateur Robinson Crusoe. Not the least advantage to Ontario of railway connection with the lake will be the placing of Toronto and other large cities of Ontario in direct communication with the lumber trade of the Ottawa River, an advantage that has for some time since been enjoyed by keen business men. The bringing of this railroad as it were to the settlers' doors is merely a question of time and a very short time at that.

TEMISCAMINGUE VERSUS THE NORTH-WEST.

Many people imagine that the North-West is the only place where a farmer can prosper, for there a man can put in the plough at once, and farming becomes in consequence a much simpler matter than when the bush has first to be chop-

ped, then logged, and the roots torn out before a crop can be grown. That is true to a certain extent. But when the scarcity of fuel, the hopeless inactivity and low wages of the winter, the uncertainty or rather the certainty of summer frosts, the blizzards, the grasshoppers, the low prices of produce, and the cost of indispensable machinery are taken into consideration, Temiscamingu appears the better country; for there firewood is plentiful, and it takes a very lazy man to freeze; the winter is the best time for chopping the wood and for getting out building and fence timber, the wages in the shanties are good, summer frosts are rare, and blizzards and grasshoppers are unknown. The high price of produce makes one acre here worth four in the North-West, while the only indispensable machinery is an axe and a set of drag teeth.

It takes a capitalist to start in the North-West; here a man can start with a strong pair of arms and a willing heart.

OUTFIT REQUIRED.

In spite of such possibilities, the possession of a little money could hardly be considered in the light of a calamity, and no man with a family should land here without a few dollars in hand for emergencies. Work is plentiful and the shanties convenient in the winter. Once get his family housed and with enough provisions on hand to last until he can earn more by his work, he can count himself fairly well started. His household effects he should bring with him, for he would lose more by selling at a sacrifice than the cost of the freight to bring them with him. Regarding live stock, such as horses, cows and oxen, unless a man is prepared to pay high prices for their keep until he can raise fodder of his own, they are better left behind, sold even at a sacrifice, for after all their expenses are paid, their cost would be greater than their value here.

I believe that a man is better without stock of any kind for the first year, and even after that it is best not to have too many animals to feed and look after, for such chores take up much valuable time which would be better spent in increasing the size of the clearance.

The above hints apply even to men who have considerable substance. Suppose, for example, a man is able to buy and support a team immediately on his arrival, he would have no use for it except to draw a few building logs. He would need to chop first, nor could he reasonably expect to log before the following spring. If, then, he has the money to buy a team, and needs one, as he would do for his logging, every year farmers from the lower settlements send teams into the shanties to work during the winter, and they are often anxious to sell just about the very time in the spring that the new settler wishes to buy, when good bargains are often made and teams bought for a figure far less than they would cost to bring up.

Cows also can be procured in the country at a lower figure than they would cost to bring up. A good cow giving milk can be bought for forty dollars. Oxen can also be bought, though if the demand were very sudden and large it might be hard to get them.

WATER.

Speaking of stock reminds one of the great advantage the country affords on account of its abundant supply of excellent water. It is a perfect network of creeks, both large and small. The water in them is unusually clear and cold and as a rule not the result of surface drainage but of perpetual springs. What effect the clearing of the bush will have on them it is hard to say, but the geological formation of the country would imply that there is not much likelihood of their running dry, for springs welling up through a clay soil are as a rule not much affected by surface changes.

GAME AND FISH.

All kinds of deer, such as moose, cariboo and red deer, are plentiful, as are fish of the ordinary kinds, such as bass, pike, pickerel and trout, wherever there are small lakes, but as a rule in the best townships there are very few small lakes, which is a good sign, for many small lakes mean much rock. Large tracts of good clay soil are generally free of lakes.

THE PEOPLE.

It may seem strange that a certain locality should have any effect upon the temperament of the people dwelling therein, yet such is the case, and the effect of Temiscamingue is to call forth the very best attributes of humanity, charity, off-handedness, and extraordinary hospitality. This has been universally recognized by all who have paid a visit to this lake, and though this distinctive feature may apply to the whole length of the Ottawa River, Temiscamingue prides herself in it, and the general hope is, that long may she retain that reputation.

SAW MILLS, GRIST, MILLS AND STORES

There is at present one saw mill in the settlement, also a grist mill and a good store. The name of the post office is Haileybury, close to the mill, on the lake shore, in the third concession of the township of Burke.

There are two other mills on the Quebec side of the lake, and a number of stores, so that everything required in reason by settlers can be procured at about the same figure that it would cost to bring it up.

HOW TO GET THERE.

Mattawa, on the C. P. R., is the nearest railway station. The journey from there is made at present by means of small steamers plying on the stretches of still water between the rapids on the Ottawa River. Tramways have been built at these rapids across which the passengers walk, and their baggage is carried over on a truck drawn by a horse. At the Long Sault Rapids, however, a small engine does the work instead of a horse, the distance, being about seven miles. This is the last portage, and at the head of the Long Saults Lake Temiscamingue commences.

Here the little steamers are replaced by good, large vessels, comfortably fitted up for passenger traffic. The principal one is owned by Mr. A. Lumsden, and bears the name of the "Meteor," the other is owned by Mr. D. Gillies, and is called the "Clyde," and is also a good boat, though somewhat smaller than the "Meteor." Besides these steamers there is the "Argo," a large sidewheel steamer especially devoted to towing the rafts and booms of saw logs of the lumbermen. The head of the Long Sault is about thirty miles from Mattawa, and it takes a day or so to get there. Haileybury can be reached the following evening.

Of the intended extension of the C. P. R. to the head of the Long Sault I have spoken under the heading of railroads.

Fares and freight rates are as follows :

Fare from Mattawa to Haileybury.....	\$4 50
Cost per 100 lbs. for all freight	85

HOTEL ACCOMODATION.

A wise man leaving home with his family, bound for Temiscamingue, carries his own food. It is true that meals can be procured on the road, but 25 cents for every man, woman and child soon mounts up, and the money can be better spent in other ways.

At Mattawa, a man would be obliged to pay for his meals, but from there up he can have a picnic out of his own basket, though if he is so inclined good meals can be had on the way for the paying.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Temiscamingue signifies "deep water." The Indians called it so and we have adopted their name.

It has been a great fur-trading centre of the Hudson's Bay Company, and before them of the North-West Company. The fort, or trading post, still stands, though no more used for trade. It has become a popular resort for summer tourists, being one of the most picturesquely situated spots on the lake. Upon a point opposite it, and with it forming a narrows, stands the first Roman Catholic

mission house, now also abandoned and falling into ruins, new buildings having been erected at Baie des Peres on the Quebec side, the nucleus of the French settlement in that Province.

The boundary line between Ontario and Quebec follows the Ottawa River and passing through Temiscamingue Lake to its northern extremity leaves the river Ottawa and heads straight north to the height of land between James' Bay and the river system of the St. Lawrence, throwing into Ontario the fertile valley of the White River, the future homes of thousands, where are farms or the making of farms through which the plow will run from end to end, level and clear of stones, and so lightly timbered that a man can log and yet not die, nor bend himself double as our forefathers have done before us.

HINTS FOR SETTLERS ON THE WAY UP.

Possess your soul in patience, for the way of the small steamers is slow and wearisome for one in a hurry, but the employees are civil and obliging.

Should the means of transport appear to you rough, primitive and inadequate to the prices charged, remember that ten years ago, and less, canoes were the only conveyances on the river and freight was carried over the portages on men's backs. Moreover, do not forget that the less the satisfaction afforded by the C. P. R. the greater the inducements will be to the Nipissing and James' Bay railroad to push ahead, for when they see the enormous profits made on this undertaking during the last two years, the promoters of the latter line will understand that there is something in it.

Let not the appearance of the land from Mattawa up vex the soul of any man, nor fill him with despair, as it has no connection with, nor similitude to that which he is bound for. Believe nothing unfavorable to Temiscamingue until you see it, for many men have many axes to grind and all are glad of good neighbors.

Let those who can afford it leave their families behind them until they have first spied out the land, then if it does not suit the loss is not serious.

If children accompany you arrange that there shall be sufficient wraps and blankets to make the little ones comfortable on the way up, and should the little steamers be delayed, and part of the journey made at night, the rugs and wraps do not come amiss to those who are grown up.

Do not forget or leave behind the package containing some food, for the air of Temiscamingue is bracing, and nothing disheartens like hunger.

When you arrive at the head of the Sault and are safely on board the "Meteor," the captain of which, Mr. W. Percy, is famous for his courtesy and kindness to his passengers, your troubles of the journey are about at an end. You can commence to look at and enjoy the scenery which is without doubt striking, and in some spots grand. At first the lake is narrow, hemmed in by forest-clad hills, and of unpromising appearance to all but the lover of the picturesque.

After passing the Opemican Narrows, about thirteen miles from the starting point, a change takes place, the lake becomes more like a lake and the scenery grander, but still unpromising to the seeker of farms, who is liable to exclaim, "I have been deceived." The shores are precipitous and inhospitable to look upon from this point of view.

At long intervals he sees a farm perched up in an impossible place or nestling between hills that would strike terror into the hearts of the most enthusiastic. The country seems to him made of rock, and the river or lake let down into it. He sees on the eastern shore the Keppewa River come tumbling into the lake in spring a mass of yellow foam. On the west, further up, the Beaver Mountain rises above the rest, the King of Beavers watching for its mate, and at its foot lie a few farms, earnest of better things above.

On the eastern or Quebec shore, though still rough, signs of agricultural possibilities begin to show between the hills, but still the lover of the picturesque has more to be enthusiastic over than the seeker of land.

Straight before him looms the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort, pretty in its white-washed buildings with their dark setting of second growth pine.

Opposite, on the Ontario side, stands the old Roman Catholic mission building, tumbling down in picturesque decay.

It is here that the land road from North Bay emerges on Temiscamingue. It is never used and probably has grown up. It struck Temiscamingue too soon, and should have been carried further west, straight to the promised land.

Passing through the Narrows, the land-seeker sees before him his destination. Fifteen miles to the north-west is Haileybury, the nucleus of Ontario's colonization scheme.

Before pushing straight on, however, to Haileybury, the steamer runs into Baie des Peres, the first village on Temiscamingue. Here are several stores, a saw mill and hotel. The post office has lately been turned in a money order office, and Baie des Peres is pushing ahead. Leaving Baie des Peres the steamer again heads up the lake, making gradually for the western shore, which for the first eight miles is of the roughest description. The lover of the picturesque is jubilant. He sees a magnificent lake, whose shores rise up precipitously to a height of three or four hundred feet. The "Frog Rock," where the ill-fated Indians eat the enchanted frog, rises, tallest of them all, while away to the north and east the lake stretches and widens until the shores appear blue in the distance. But suddenly the scene changes, the high rocks give place to gentle slopes dotted by a few prosperous looking farms owned by men who have been fortunate enough or wise enough to secure situations suitable for them, while away north and west the shore line appears as straight and level as if laid down by level, square and compass.

This is the commencement of the good land, and there are about half a million acres of it in one continuous block. The seeker of land enjoys the prospect, while the lover of the picturesque revels in the scene. Soon the steamer has blown her whistle for Haileybury, and in a few minutes the prospective settler will have landed in a country wherein he expects to make his home, a land full of possibilities and his future all before him, himself the fashioner of his own destiny, subject alone to one higher power.

TOWNSHIPS OPENED FOR SALE.

On the 29th of May, 1891, the following Order in Council was passed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council :

Upon the consideration of the report of the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands dated 27th May instant, the Committee of Council advise that the Commissioner be authorized to place such of the lands in the Townships of

Lorrain, Bucke, Hudson, Dymond, Harris, Casey, Harley, Kerns, Henwood, Bryce, Beauchamp, Armstrong, Hilliard, Brethour, Ingram, Evanturel, Dack, Robillard, Sharpe, Savard, Chamberlain, Marter, Pacaud, Marquis and Blair as he may deem advisable upon the market for sale to actual settlers, at the price of fifty cents per acre, one-half cash, and balance in two yearly instalments with interest, subject to the following conditions :

Actual residence upon the land purchased for four years from the date of purchase, clearing and having under cultivation and crop at least ten acres for every hundred acres, and building a habitable house at least sixteen feet by twenty feet, such conditions to be fulfilled before issue of patent ; also subject to the following regulations respecting pine timber : All pine trees growing or being upon the said land so sold shall be considered as reserved from such sale, and such lands shall be subject to any timber license covering or including such land in force at the time of such sale, or granted or renewed within four years from the date of such sale, or granted or renewed prior to the filing of the proof of the completion of the settlement duties in the Department of Crown Lands, and such trees may be cut and removed from such land under the authority of any such timber licenses, while lawfully in force, but the purchaser at such sale, or those claiming under him, may cut and use such trees as may be necessary for the purpose of building and fencing on the land so purchased, and may also cut and dispose of all trees required to be removed in actually clearing said land for cultivation, but no pine trees, except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid, shall be cut beyond the limit of such actual clearing, before the issuing of the patent for such lands, and all pine trees so cut and disposed of (except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid), shall be subject to the payment of the same dues as are at the time payable by the holders of licenses to cut timber or sawlogs. Provided, however, that this order shall not apply to any land to be sold as mining land under "The General Mining Act of 1869," and amendments thereto.

In accordance with the foregoing Order in Council, the Commissioner of Crown Lands has opened for sale the lands in the townships of Bucke, Dymond and Harris, bordering the western shores of Lake Temiscamingue, at fifty cents per acre, upon the terms and conditions mentioned above. The portion of the townships named may be seen on reference to the map of the district attached herewith.

HOW TO PURCHASE PUBLIC LANDS.

In case a party should desire to purchase public land, in one of the three townships named, he should make his application direct to the Crown Land Department at Toronto, and support it by the affidavits of at least two credible and disinterested persons. These affidavits should set out all facts in connection with the land which he seeks to purchase, and especially whether it has ever been occupied, whether occupied at the time the application is made, and if so, by whom, and when such occupation commenced ; whether any improvements have been made on said land, and, if so, the nature and extent of the same, and by whom and when they were made ; and also, whether there is any claim made thereto adverse to that of the applicant, and based on the ground of occupation or improvements. If the applicant has acquired the interest or claim of some previous occupant, he should show the fact and file an assignment.

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